# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3900
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2005
FOREST COVER
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai;Bishnoi Shri Jaswant Singh;Chandrappan Shri C.K.;Chaure Shri Bapu Hari;Ponnuswamy Shri E.;Reddy Shri Suravaram Sudhakar;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Suman Shri Ramji Lal

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether some proposals for development of forest areas and afforestation are pending for approval with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time needed for approval;

(c) whether the Government has started plantation for increasing forest area of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) whether any assessment has been made regarding the shrinking of forest area during the last three years;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof;

(g) the target fixed for increasing the total percentage of forest area by plantation on an yearly basis;

(h) the ratio of funds fixed for expenditure by the Centre and States to increase the area under forests;

(i) the extent of afforestation done during the last two years, State-wise;

(j) the steps taken to ensure faster afforestation in all categories of areas including the mining areas;

(k) the funds allocated under national afforestation programme during the current year, State-wise;

(l) whether 33% forest cover is necessary for environmental balance;

(m) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time limit specified to achieve 33% forest cover; and

(n) the details of open/covered forest cover, State-wise as on date?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a), (b), (c) and (d) Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) through two-tier decentralized mechanism of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level for regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining lands. As on 31.03.2005, 620 FDA project proposals had been approved out of a total of 697 proposals received from the States. The State-wise FDA project proposals received and sanctioned, and the total area to be treated is given in Annexure-I. Pending proposals which are complete in all respects will be approved subject to availability of funds.

(e) and (f) As per the State of Forest Report 2003 published by Forest Survey of India, there has been an increase of 2795 km2 in Forest Cover as compared to 2001 assessment.

(g) No yearly targets have been fixed for increasing the total percentage of forest area by plantation. However, target for tree plantation in terms of "Tree Plantation on Private Lands" (number of seedlings) and "Area covered - Public and Forest Lands" (in Ha.) is fixed annually under Points 16 A and 16 B of 20-Point Programme respectively.

(h) No ratio of funds for expenditure by the Centre and States to increase the area under forests is fixed.

(i) Tree plantation done during the last two years (2003-04, 2004-05) under 20 Point Programme is given in Annexure-II.

(j) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has taken a number of initiatives to increase the pace of tree planting in the country. These include rationalization of felling and transit regulations of trees species grown on non-forest private lands, request to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to involve all landowning departments in tree planting by constituting an inter-

departmental committee under the chairpersonship of the Chief Secretary, and to formulate and implement a Media Plan to generate mass awareness amongst general public about tree planting.

(k) The allocation for National Afforestation Programme Scheme during 2005-06 is Rs. 284.85 crores, including allocation for North Eastern States. Funds are released to the FDAs in the States as per their requisitions provided the proposals for release of money are complete in all respects.

(l) and (m) National Forest Policy 1988 states that the national goal should be to have a minimum of one-third of the total land area of the country under forest or tree cover. In the hills and in mountainous regions, the aim should be to maintain two-third of the area under such cover in order to prevent erosion and land degradation and to ensure the stability of the fragile eco-system. Planning Commission has set the goal of achieving 33% Forest and Tree cover by the year 2012.

(n) The details of State-wise Very Dense Forest, Moderately Dense Forest and Open Forest Cover as per State of Forest Report 2003 is given in Annexure-lll.

Annexure I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a), (b), (c) and (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3900 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 22.08.2005 REGARDING FOREST COVER

Progress of FDA Projects

(As on 31.3.2005)

| Sl. No. | Name of State/UT | No. of FDA Project proposals received | No. of FDA Project proposals approved | Total Project Area (ha) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 32 | 28 | 43910 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 16 | 13 | 19476 |
| 3 | Assam | 28 | 24 | 24015 |
| 4 | Bihar | 9 | 7 | 10150 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 31 | 29 | 40289 |
| 6 | Goa | 3 | 3 | 1250 |
| 7 | Gujarat | 22 | 16 | 25445 |
| 8 | Haryana | 16 | 16 | 21055 |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 28 | 27 | 32406 |
| 10 | Jammu & Kashmir | 31 | 31 | 47839 |
| 11 | Jharkhand | 27 | 27 | 38600 |
| 12 | Karnataka | 45 | 41 | 56530 |
| 13 | Kerala | 25 | 14 | 12845 |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | 44 | 44 | 73350 |
| 15 | Maharashtra | 45 | 41 | 62113 |
| 16 | Manipur | 13 | 12 | 17874 |
| 17 | Meghalaya | 7 | 7 | 7400 |
| 18 | Mizoram | 30 | 19 | 26770 |
| 19 | Nagaland | 18 | 16 | 25528 |
| 20 | Orissa | 32 | 32 | 48997 |
| 21 | Punjab | 12 | 5 | 4850 |
| 22 | Rajasthan | 18 | 16 | 23100 |
| 23 | Sikkim | 7 | 7 | 15280 |
| 24 | Tamil Nadu | 32 | 31 | 50927 |
| 25 | Tripura | 13 | 12 | 19405 |
| 26 | Uttar Pradesh | 61 | 56 | 61987 |
| 27 | Uttaranchal | 32 | 30 | 33479 |
| 28 | West Bengal | 20 | 16 | 22656 |
| | Total | 697 | 620 | 867526 |

# 7 CEC FDAs of J&K for Rs. 19.12 crores approved under orders of CEC to cover 10670 ha

Annexure II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART
(i) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3900
DUE FOR ANSWER ON 22.08.2005 REGARDING FOREST COVER

Tree plantation done during the last two years under 20 Point Programme

(Seedling in lakhs and Area in Ha.)

| S.No. | State / UT | 2003-04 | | 2004-05 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Seedling Distribution 16(A) | Area covered 16 (B) | Seedling Distribution 16(A) | Area covered 16 (B) |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 2466.94 | 106654 | 2802.75 | 179333 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pr. | 2.37 | 0 | 0.71 | 822 |
| 3 | Assam | 24.29 | 1446 | 25.85 | 14126 |
| 4 | Bihar | 129.26 | 10622 | 54.05 | 3206 |
| 5 | Chhatisgarh | 226.00 | 45200 | 0.00 | 64779 |
| 6 | Goa | 8.44 | 516 | 8.29 | 473 |
| 7 | Gujarat | 1203.14 | 52000 | 1805.14 | 80020 |
| 8 | Haryana | 317.26 | 18309 | 346.19 | 14554 |
| 9 | Himachal Pr. | 33.33 | 15222 | 33.10 | 17737 |
| 10 | J and Kashmir | 87.64 | 23468 | 96.77 | 28109 |
| 11 | Jharkhand | 4.98 | 32157 | 24.19 | 41809 |
| 12 | Karnataka | 356.96 | 20238 | 224.38 | 40167 |
| 13 | Kerala | 2.13 | 6304 | 2.25 | 4681 |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | 350.00 | 150016 | 350.00 | 167500 |
| 15 | Maharashtra | 328.02 | 26916 | 340.03 | 41221 |
| 16 | Manipur | 0.00 | 0 | 8.03 | 5304 |
| 17 | Meghalaya | 30.03 | 1607 | 11.02 | 1 |
| 18 | Mizoram | 43.30 | 13398 | 14.65 | 1941 |
| 19 | Nagaland | 172.35 | 14358 | 282.45 | 20416 |
| 20 | Orissa | 272.49 | 50986 | 112.60 | 54551 |
| 21 | Punjab | 31.78 | 11871 | 17.80 | 12895 |
| 22 | Rajasthan | 99.19 | 21801 | 117.56 | 43807 |
| 23 | Sikkim | 0.00 | 0 | 10.64 | 8255 |
| 24 | Tamil Nadu | 147.65 | 89275 | 119.86 | 110037 |
| 25 | Tripura | 36.43 | 7812 | 20.40 | 9889 |
| 26 | Uttar Pradesh | 1049.74 | 40223 | 2023.84 | 57145 |
| 27 | Uttaranchal | 142.87 | 77383 | 154.33 | 102089 |
| 28 | West Bengal | 23.58 | 5063 | 50.72 | 14 |
| 29 | A & N Islands | 1.62 | 1128 | 0.82 | 573 |
| 30 | Chandigarh | 0.32 | 162 | 0.19 | 179 |
| 31 | D & N Haveli | 7.97 | 219 | 6.25 | 322 |
| 32 | Daman & Diu | 0.00 | 25 | 0.11 | 10 |
| 33 | Delhi | 8.44 | 0 | 9.04 | 0 |
| 34 | Lakshadweep | 0.00 | 3 | 0.10 | 22 |
| 35 | Pondicherry | 2.81 | 17 | 1.99 | 128 |
| | Total | 7611.33 | 844399.00 | 9076.10 | 1126115 |

Annexure III

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (n) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3900
DUE FOR ANSWER ON 22.08.2005 REGARDING FOREST COVER

(As per State of Forest Report 2003)

(Area in km2)

| Sl.No. | State / Uts | Very Dense Forest | Modt. Dense Forest | Open Forest | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 23 | 24356 | 20040 | 44419 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pr. | 13907 | 39604 | 14508 | 68019 |
| 3 | Assam | 1684 | 11358 | 14784 | 27826 |
| 4 | Bihar | 76 | 2951 | 2531 | 5558 |
| 5 | Chhatisgarh | 1540 | 37440 | 17018 | 55998 |
| 6 | Delhi | 0 | 52 | 118 | 170 |
| 7 | Goa | 0 | 1255 | 901 | 2156 |
| 8 | Gujarat | 114 | 6231 | 8601 | 14946 |
| 9 | Haryana | 2 | 518 | 997 | 1517 |
| 10 | Himachal Pr. | 1093 | 7883 | 5377 | 14353 |
| 11 | J & Kashmir | 2102 | 8395 | 10770 | 21267 |
| 12 | Jharkhand | 2544 | 9137 | 11035 | 22716 |
| 13 | Karnataka | 431 | 22030 | 13988 | 36449 |
| 14 | Kerala | 334 | 9294 | 5949 | 15577 |
| 15 | Madhya Pradesh | 4000 | 37843 | 34586 | 76429 |
| 16 | Maharashtra | 8070 | 20317 | 18478 | 46865 |
| 17 | Manipur | 720 | 5818 | 10681 | 17219 |
| 18 | Meghalaya | 168 | 6323 | 10348 | 16839 |
| 19 | Mizoram | 84 | 7404 | 10942 | 18430 |
| 20 | Nagaland | 57 | 5650 | 7902 | 13609 |
| 21 | Orissa | 288 | 27882 | 20196 | 48366 |
| 22 | Punjab | 0 | 743 | 837 | 1580 |
| 23 | Rajasthan | 14 | 4482 | 11330 | 15826 |
| 24 | Sikkim | 458 | 1904 | 900 | 3262 |
| 25 | Tamil Nadu | 2440 | 9567 | 10636 | 22643 |
| 26 | Tripura | 58 | 4988 | 3047 | 8093 |
| 27 | Uttar Pradesh | 1297 | 4699 | 8122 | 14118 |
| 28 | Uttaranchal | 4002 | 14420 | 6043 | 24465 |
| 29 | West Bengal | 2303 | 3742 | 6298 | 12343 |
| 30 | A & N Islands | 3475 | 2809 | 680 | 6964 |
| 31 | Chandigarh | 1 | 8 | 6 | 15 |
| 32 | D & N Haveli | 0 | 145 | 80 | 225 |
| 33 | Daman & Diu | 0 | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| 34 | Lakshadweep | 0 | 12 | 11 | 23 |
| 35 | Pondicherry | 0 | 17 | 23 | 40 |
| | Total | 51285 | 339279 | 287769 | 678333 |